

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
COUNTY COUNCIL MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING  
November 2, 2011 .....9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Chairman J. Matthew Rivers, Vice-Chair Lenora V. Powe, Council Members: G. Franklin Plyler, Bruce E. Rivers, Robert G. Cole, Gerald L. Miller, Douglas A. Curtis and Crawford Moore.

**ABSENT:** Council Member Kenneth A. Johnson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Susie Boswell – Clerk to Council, Michelle Stanley – Finance Director, Denise R. Douglass – Administrator, C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney, Nancy Updegrave, Debbie Boan, Brenda Quick, Nancy Kimrey, Joy Young, Brenda Workman – Chesterfield County Economic Development, Charles L. Talbert, III – McAbee, Talbert, Halliday Audit Firm, Victoria McGonigal, Brenda Quick, Tim Eubanks, Leighton Bell – The Link, Gary Phillips – Pageland Progressive Journal and Jamie Frost – Alliance Consulting Engineers. There were others attending the meeting who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER**

Chairman J. Matthew Rivers welcomed everyone and asked Council Member Plyler to open the meeting with prayer.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Council Member Powe made a motion to adopt the November 2, 2011 meeting agenda with any amendments approved by council. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) **October 5, 2011 - Regular Meeting**

Council Member Cole made a motion to adopt the October 5, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

b) **October 26, 2011 – Special Meeting**

Council Member Miller made a motion to adopt the October 26, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

## **SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS**

None

## **APPOINTMENTS**

### **a. Charles L. Talbert, III – 2010/2011 Audit Presentation**

Mr. Talbert presented Council with the Chesterfield County Independent Audit for fiscal year 2010-2011. Chesterfield County has once again received a clean audit.

### **b. Joy Young, Citizen – Animal Issues**

Ms. Young stated that Beverly Suhy asked her to speak to council and make one little statement, that she had worked with animals most of her life and most of you know she has tried to defend and take care of animals and she said she wanted to let you know that she is tired today so she couldn't be here but she would really appreciate something significant happening for the animals in the county before she closes her eyes the last time and Ms. Young stated that is a direct quote. Ms. Young stated that she had gone to several churches asking for at least \$30.00 a month and that she was turned down. Ms. Young had a magazine from the Humane Society and stated that the Humane Society has started a program working with churches to bring their interest and some of their focus to the conditions and situation of some of the animals in the county. Ms. Young asked that if there was anyone interested in introducing this to their church, that they could meet with her and she would give them the information. She also recommended that Council consider putting the recording of the Council Meetings on the website rather than the transcript. She stated she thought that would be a lot more interesting and a lot easier for the citizens to know what happened in the Council meeting.

### **c. Nancy Kimrey, Citizen – Animal Issues**

Ms. Kimrey stated that she had an idea for getting a new dog pound. She stated she would like to get a program going so that everywhere you went you would see it in the community, like United Way or one of those programs where you could say that it was for the new animal care center and get the Rotary Club, Kiwanahs Club and anywhere you went you would see someone collecting money. She stated we need to get a total of what it would cost for a new dog pound, complete from ground up with at least 100 units and get the plans and see how much it is going to cost so the dogs would not be getting wet in cold weather and that we should try to work on getting a grant for this.

### **d. Beverly Suhy, Citizen – Animal Issues**

Did not attend meeting.

e. **Victoria McGonigal and Nancy Updegrave, Citizens – Animal Issues**

**Victoria McGonigal**

Ms. McGonigal stated that she and her husband moved to Chesterfield County because they loved the community. She stated that when she first came here she was appalled by the animal shelter. She discussed the shape of the animals and the condition of the shelter and shared some of her ideas with Council regarding ways to correct the problems at the animal shelter.

**Nancy Updegrave**

Gave handouts to Council regarding the maintenance and operation of animal shelters. Stated that she had been volunteering at the shelter. Ms. Updegrave stated that this is an issue of public safety by not establishing a clear concise set of ordinances regarding animal control and shelter protocols of policies. Stated that she thought Council should change the time of Council Meetings so more people could attend. Discussed spay and neutering and stated she thought the shelter should establish an intake evaluation and data protocol. Ms. Updegrave encouraged Council with the guidance of the special committee that has been appointed to get these things put in place, the ordinances, policies and protocols to make our county a safe and humane place for animals and people to live. Ms. Updegrave stated that she had a copy of cleaning protocol which she would give to Council Member Curtis.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Debbie Boan, Citizen**

Stated that she was very concerned about the state of unwanted animals, the shelter situation and dog fighting in the county. Stated she wished council could meet at a different time so more people could attend the meetings. She also talked about the importance of spay and neutering and about an experience she had with adopting an animal from the shelter.

**Brenda Quick, Citizen**

Stated that she thought we needed leadership to implement all of the stuff that everyone had worked so hard to present to Council and that we need somebody at the shelter that is qualified to run the shelter but leadership is the main thing.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

## **ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS**

### **a. Lease Purchasing (Dumpsters/Compactors) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Council Member Curtis made a motion to pass 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

### **1. Reimbursement Resolution (Dumpsters/Compactors)**

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to adopt Reimbursement Resolution (Dumpsters/Compactors). Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

### **b. Multi-County Industrial Park Ordinance – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, by title only**

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to pass 1<sup>st</sup> reading, by title only. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **a. Animal Services Committee Update – Animal Services Committee Chair Plyler**

Council Member Plyler stated that the Animal Services Committee, which consists of himself, Council Member Moore, Council Member Curtis, Council Member Cole, Joy Young, Nancy Kimrey and Karen Stangel, had been meeting every other Thursday for the past couple of months trying to come up with some way to get better control and better services at the Animal Shelter. Council Member Plyler presented Council with a rough draft of policies. Stated that it is State Law that they hold animals for five days and that Council Member Curtis recommended they hold them for 19 days, which he felt was a good recommendation, that way if we have somebody's animal that was picked up wouldn't be gone before they can get there to pick them up. The dogs with the mange will have a 7 day hold. Mr. Plyler stated that the pit bulls will have a 7 day hold in order to allow a pit bull rescue group to come in rather than automatic euthanasia. If animals are parvo positive, rescuers will have 24 hours to get them out.

The protocol will be to treat the animal when it comes in, which would include deworming and a distemper shot and also advised that it will be mandatory for animals to be spayed and neutered before they are adopted and in that ordinance the county will transport the animal to the vet and the adoptee will pick up directly from the vet. A price for this service has not been set. Cats will have a 10 day hold and they will have the minimum shots when they come in and if a owner brings an animal in to relinquish it to the shelter, there is going to be a relinquish fee. The relinquish fee has not been set but are looking at \$10.00 to \$15.00. Council Member Plyler stated that he did not agree with the talk about the cleanliness of the shelter and stated that he and his wife went to the shelter on Sunday and his wife was impressed with the cleanliness of the shelter. Mr. Plyler announced that we now have a new shelter manager, Ms. Jerri Gaskins and that we also have two part-time employees and that he thought they were doing a wonderful job, that they were out at the shelter on Sunday taking their own time working at the shelter. A handout was given out regarding animal ordinances and Council Member Plyler stated that some of the ordinances are already on the books and that the committee had just come up with some augmentation to them. He stated he would like for everyone to look at them, go over them and make any changes for the good or anything else but at the next council meeting that they need to get something firmly in place.

**Chairman Rivers:** I would recommend that you work with staff on the proposed policies in the interim and that the committee take a vote, come back at the December meeting and then come back with a recommendation from the committee, the majority rules on the committee and then we will go from there and if anything else needs to be added pursuant to this other packet of materials, we can review those at that time also.

Motion was made by Council Member Plyler, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, *by title only*, on the Animal Ordinances and to approve the policies presented, excluding the pit bull issue. Council Member Curtis seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

#### **ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL**

None

#### **ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF**

##### **a. Economic Development Project Approval – Brenda Workman, CCED**

Ms. Workman appeared before Council to brief them on a project that is ongoing and that the Town of Cheraw has actively recruited, Southern Organics and Supply (Ironwood Farms). They are looking at a site that is called the Pyramid Site, 7

acres in down town Cheraw on the river. Ms. Workman stated that it has been determined that the site is a brownfield site. The Town of Cheraw in the recruitment process has agreed to work to remediate the site to get it in shape for the company. The Town of Cheraw voted to expend up to \$10,000.00 to see what is on the site and if it is manageable. They are considering moving forward working with DHEC in an agreement for remediation. Ms. Workman stated that any entity can work with DHEC in this capacity if they are non-profit. The Town of Cheraw has voted and was ready to go. They have environmental attorneys, all the proper professionals and environmental engineers on the project. Ms. Workman stated that a title search was done on the property and it was revealed that the Town of Cheraw at some point and time had owned that property and to work with DHEC on a remediation you can not be responsible at any point and time so that eliminated the Town of Cheraw from being the non-profit to enter into an agreement with DHEC to get the property in order for the company. Ms. Workman stated the Town of Cheraw is wanting to ask the County Council as their Economic Development partner to act as a pass through as that non-profit entity in working with DHEC to get the property in shape for the company. It will be a pass through if Council agrees. Ms. Workman stated no county funds will be expended at all and that today was an informational presentation as a background for a future documentation and a proposal will come to Council at the next Council meeting to be a partner to get this property back into shape and in service to create jobs in the county. She stated today was for information purposes and to give Council an opportunity to ask questions and that full Council would receive full documentation and a proposal before the next meeting.

**Chairman Rivers:** You are going forward with the Town of Cheraw and if the title search pulls up a red flag, then we will not serve as the pass through. If in the interim there is a title search, that the date would be the December meeting. If the title search shows we were included just like the town of Cheraw, then we cannot serve as a pass through and under any circumstances it will not cost us a dime and we will not have any liability, is this correct?

**Brenda Workman:** Yes, sir that is correct.

**Chairman Rivers:** Asked if there was any opposition from Council Members for Ms. Workman going forward with this and to bring it back contingent on the title search. Informed Ms. Workman to have papers in order and Council would see her at next months meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Council Member Plyler**

None

**Council Member Bruce E. Rivers**

None

**Council Member Cole**

None

**Council Member Curtis**

None

**Council Member Miller**

None

**Council Member Moore**

None

**Council Vice-Chair Powe**

None

**Council Chair J. Matthew Rivers**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council did not enter Executive Session.

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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J. Matthew Rivers, Chairman  
Date: December 7, 2011

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Susie Boswell, Clerk to Council